WE SHOULD DRIVE OUT THE FIFTH COLUMN ELEMENT IN THE NEGRO RACE

OUR GREATEST ENEMY to progress is the Fifth Column element in the Negro race. Since there is a universal movement on the part of nations to drive out the Fifth Column element during this war crisis we feel that it is a good time for our race to take stock and sift out those individuals who stand in the way of progress. They are like parasites and can be best described by the poem found in John H. Paynter's new book entitled "Fifty Years After". The poem entitled "The Parasite" says:

They strut with the band like peacocks gay
With heads held high on each gala day
And are out in front on dress parade
While shouts ring out from man and maid;
But they take good pains to be out of sight
When things go bad and it looks like a fight—
Take part in the fray
Never happens, I'll say.

They have a front row seat at functions grand
And smile and nod to beat the band;
With much ado they laugh and prate
To convince the world they're up to date;
But just pass the hat and call for dough,
They're nowhere around—they had to go,
Help pay for the fun
Not a chance 'neath the sun.

There are two kinds of leaders found in the Negro race—1. The leader who is made by the group because of his program of advancement which the group accepts 2. The leader appointed by white people. The leader made by the group is the one that we accept because we feel that his program is for the best interest of our group and because we feel that he does not belong to the Fifth Column element. Some of the characteristics of the leaders made by the group are loyalty, self-denial, honesty, willingness to make a sacrifice for others, courage on the battle field, standing in the front row when it is time, will not duck issues when the heat is on and can be counted on at all times to push the cause of the advancement of colored people as well as can be relied upon when a promise is made to defend a group. The leader appointed by the other group is not much different from the same type of appointed leader who appeared during the days of slavery. Since the days of slavery we have always had a certain type of Negro who made his way to the boss's house to inform the whites man what the rest of the Negroes were doing. Today they are commonly known as stool pigeons and henchmen who point the way for outsiders to trick and befuddle our group in their stride of progress. They are more active during seasons of this kind because of the campaign. They move around in the community under the guise of leaders, heads of big organizations controlling certain groups and classes of people, but in reality they are no stronger politically than the white man makes them because the Negroes don't accept them and their popularity is judged by their ability to pass out a few messes of pottage. So it is not hard to get a few political humbugs to string along with the generals of the Fifth Column element. They also can be distinguished as rackateers who would rob the widows and orphans in the name of a worthy cause for humanity and end up living on the fat of the lamb themselves. The Negro race is at the crossroads all over the nation. His future depends upon what he does. If he allows the Fifth Column element to remain in the group and exploit our ambitions to advance, he cannot blame any one but himself. We are not so sure that we should check up all of our disadvantages or shortcomings and denial of a right to advance to the other group when we have so many in our own group whom we allow to exist and live by selling us out. If the masses of our group from the professional classes on down to the working classes are willing to sit supinely by and allow a few pan-handlers and Negro henchmen to dictate the policy of our group in order that the white man can put his program over, there is no one to blame but the Negro himself. So often we do not get down to brass tacks in discussing these matters for fear of hurting some one's feelings. But if the Negro race is to advance, it is going to take more than hurting some one's feelings because the day of giving to the Negro has passed and he must fight his own battles and make it for himself. Our problems are too delicate and competition from the other group is too keen for us to allow Fifth Column elements to block our inroads to progress. There never was a race of people in the history of mankind who did not have to make a sacrifice to achieve the greater things in life. The road of progress is not one of flowery beds of ease. It is a battleground likened unto the battlefields of France and England that are subject to blitzkrieg attacks from outsiders because of information given them by the Fifth Column element. All of us have specific duties and specific stations in our group. It takes all of us working together to put the program over. There are some of us who want to be leaders but it is just impossible for us to be leaders because the positions and stations we hold handicap us from taking the front ranks at the time when needed. Some of us have jobs and we must bridle our tongues and do what our bosses order us to do or end up in the bread line. It is no disgrace or no reflection to be in such a situation but it is unreasonable and wrong to try to impose yourself upon the Negro when you know good and well that you cannot lead unless you become a member of the Fifth Column element. So it is better to stay in your place, keep your mouth closed and just give the sign "yea" to the advancement program of Negroes. We have a posterity to preserve which should be an inspiration to the present generation to do more about their progress. There are no two ways about it. None of us can advance any further than our race advances. If the masses of our people remain at the bottom of the economic ladder, our professional classes will remain there also. It is the sacred duty of every Negro who believes in his race to join the movement of national unity and drive out the Fifth Column element that within the race plays an important part in blocking our progress. We feel that if we clean our own house first and get organized that our battle will be half won; that a great many of the things for which we fight and contend will be accorded us by the other group. We will be respected as men and women and not as insignificant voters who can be bought on election day for a mess of pottage. More could be said about this Fifth Column and more, perhaps, will be said in these columns at a later date. In our local community it may even be necessary to name some of the leaders of the Fifth Column element. We hope that won't be necessary. But we want it understood that the Negroes in Kansas City and the State of Kansas are going to make progress in spite of the Fifth Column and in spite of the devil and high waters. Let us close with another poem from John H. Paynter's book "After Fifty Years" under the title "The Black Hundred"

Seventy years Seventy years!
How stands the verdict?
Still in the shadow of doubt
Gropes the Black Hundred
Forward the Black Brigade
Stand firm, be brave! was said,
All manhood's rights to gain
Strive hard with brawn and brain
Onward! Black Hundred.

Upward the Black Brigade
There's not a soul dismayed
Though the black race well knows
Great ones have blundered.
There's not to make resolve—,
There's not to question "Why?"
Ours is to struggle on
Cursed and oppressed by wrong
Forward! Black Hundred!

Jim Crow at Mount Vernon's gate
Jim Crow in church and state
Jim Crow by boat and car
Points ever the way;
Frowned on with hate of hell,
Bravely they strove, and well
Upward from slavery's death
Seeking Freedom's pure breath
Onward! Black Hundred.

Rebuked by wrath so just
Stand trembling and humbled.
Jaws grimly set; rights won must
be kept,
Loyal each, man to man
They are noble and grand
Glorious Black Hundred.

When will our nation stand firm
On Equal rights for man?
All the world wonders;
"Moral Courage" the one great
need
Will strike caste's shackles from
the freed
Patience, Black Hundred.

Pitchfork to right of them—,
Chai and ball, to left of them—,
Clansmen behind them
Violent and threatening.
Lynchers mad, with yell and hiss,
Seize mother, boy, old man and
miss
Spotless of guilt, and drag to a
death
By torch, rope or stick and at
the end
A scorn-laden kick;
Then back rolls the mob "orderly"
form
While souls of Black Hundred
Forever march on.

A jealous pride in civic right
Ignorance pitted 'gainst insult
and might;
"Birth of a Nation" roundlyscor-
ed
And libels all by tongue or pen
Grim fought in press, pulpit,
court;
While cracker and lyncher too

West Palm Beach, Fla. Times
December 6, 1940

Dies Lauds Negroes For Resisting Reds

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 6. (AP) The Communist Party has made little headway in what he termed efforts to stir "racial hatred" among Southern negroes, Chairman Martin Dies, of the House un-American activities committee told a lecture audience here.

Dies, who began last night a lecture tour review of his committee's findings, charged that agents paid by the Soviet government were spreading Communist propaganda in every Southern State, particularly among negroes, and added:

"It is a tribute to the negroes, however, that they have withstood for the most part the work of these agents."

The Texan declared there was less subversive activity prevalent in the South than any other part of the nation, despite the use of "paid" Communistic agents.

In a review of the committee's work, he said its agents had found American defense industries infiltrated with foreign elements and members of subversive organizations.

Dies said the committee, which recently released a "white paper" dealing with alleged German activities in this country, planned four more. They would deal, he added, with Japan, Italy, the German-American Bund and a second on Germany.

Pascagoula, Miss. Star
December 13, 1940

COMMUNISM AND THE NEGROES

An Associated Press dispatch quotes Chairman Martin Dies of the House un-American activities committee as saying that the Communist party in the South had made very little headway in what he termed efforts to stir up "racial hatred" among the negroes. He charged that paid agents of the Soviet government were spreading Communistic propaganda in the Southern states, especially among the negroes But, he addded:

"It is a tribute to the negroes, that they have withstood for the most part the work of these agents." He declared there was less subversive activity prevalent in the South than any other part of the nation, despite the use of "paid" Communistic agents.

There are two good reasons for the above. The South is the least non-American section of the country, her population being composed largely of either native-born, straight-out Americans or their direct decendants; and the negroes of the South as a rule being better satisfied with their condition and treatment than are the negroes of the North. Any Southern negro, who behaves himself, works and attends to his business without meddling in politics, is sure of plenty of work and a living among congenial surroundings.

When the mealy-mouthed politician from the North talks to negroes about their place in politics, their equal social rights and privileges, it is then that the trouble begins and the negro alienates himself from his best friends, the white people of the South. Communism has no chance among a satisfied people.

Negroes Don't Participate In Radical Anti-Defense Demonstration In California

Russia Lost Much Prestige With Colored People When She Waged War On Finland

Police Break Up Parade

LOS ANGELES.—(ANP)—The fact that Soviet Russia lost much prestige with local colored liberals when she sided with Nazi Germany and jumped on poor Finland, became strikingly evident last Monday when only a scattered few colored Communists were among the hundred that attempted a public demonstration against armed conscription, in the busy downtown section at 7th and Flower streets.

During the heat of the depression, active agents of the Communist party, working principally among the worried, unemployed Negroes, had through social activities, and lauding of the Soviet form of government, built up a large following. However, these ranks began to dwindle at the first dawn of returning prosperity and the government's work projects.

No sooner had headlines flashed the fact last week that the conscription bill would be passed, than handbills were struck off at the local Communist headquarters headed "The last mile". Excerpts from the read, "This is your last mile; The next step is the S. R. A. concentration camps.

Reds Seeking To Win Over Negroes--Dies

Investigator, Here for Speech, Praises Southern Group's Loyalty.

By JACK SPALDING.

The Communist game of winning the American Negro over to Moscow's assortment of causes has not made much progress but is a potential danger to the south, Representative Martin Dies, congressional investigator of un-American activities, said on his arrival here yesterday.

"Some progress has been made," he stated, "mostly through Communist dominated Negro congresses, workers' schools in the north and other groups. But the great majority of southern Negroes are loyal, patriotic Americans. Their refusal to be drawn in is a real tribute to them."

Dies came to Atlanta to address a rally at the city auditorium and "to get a picture of the situation in this section."

Helping him size up the situation is James H. Stedman, formerly of Norwood, Ga., now an attorney and investigator of the congressman's famed committee on un-American activities.

The outstanding American authority on the Fifth Column and all its works, Dies began a compilation of columnists in the country more than three years ago, and now has a card index file of more than 100,000 suspects.

"The going was easy up until the outbreak of the war," he explained. "I'm not criticizing any particular group of government officials but once there were a lot of people who thought Russia was a democracy. Consequently, operations were in the open. But the war has driven most foreign agents underground."

In spite of the current hullaballoo over the menace from within, the nation still has no idea of the true seriousness of the situation, Dies declared. And of all sections of the country the south is the most blissfully ignorant of the extent of "ism" infiltration, primarily because there are so few foreigners here.

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Generally speaking, he said his committee had evidence of collaboration between some "so-called patriotic organizations," and those devoted to the spread of alien dogma.

The tie-in of certain patriotic organizations with German and Russian agencies is in a way natural, Dies explained, as the Communist and Nazi programs in this country, like the program of many American organizations that believe themselves thoroughly patriotic, is based on prejudice.

"Wherever the opportunity presents itself to divide people on racial or religious lines, there the foreigners concentrate," he said.

A blond, big-boned Texan, Dies yesterday did not live up to the somewhat flamboyant reputation some of his investigations have made for him.

He spoke quietly, earnestly and at length. Reporters found him easy to start and hard to stop. And the outstanding impression he leaves on his hearers is that he firmly believes each word he says.

RAMSPECK REGRETS MISSING DIES' SPEECH.

Congressman Robert Ramspeck, of Atlanta, announced yesterday in Washington that he regretted that urgent matters before congress prevented his being present at Dies' speech last night.

"I have not accepted this invitation because of the urgent matters pending in congress connected with national defense," he said. "I feel my duty requires me to remain in Washington for the purpose of expediting so far as may be possible, all matters connected with our national defense. I hope the meeting will be a success and regret very much that I cannot be present."

Interesting Experience With 5th Columnist In Harlem Store Cited By Prominent Negro Labor Leader

AUG 31 1940

By FRANK R. CROSSWAITH
General Org. I. L. G. W. U.
Chairman, Negro Labor Committee

If there is still any doubt in the minds of some of our friends regarding the propaganda being peddled to gullible Negroes by recognized fifth columnists in the United States, I herewith, offer the following experience of mine as additional proof.

Recently I walked into a well established business institution located in the heart of Negro Harlem. The proprietor of the institution and I have been close associates for more than a quarter of a century. Our friendship began when we both were common employees in a large clothing manufacturing firm in the early days of the first World War.

Upon entering the store, I found the proprietor waiting upon a Negro girl customer, while two other salesmen, whose acquaintanceship I also enjoy, stood by unoccupied. I hailed my friends who in turn greeted me as follows:

"Hello Frank. How are things? What is the latest word from the war front?"

In response, I proudly exhibited a copy of a well known newspaper which carried the bold headlines across its mast head. the information that British airplanes had attacked several large industrial centers in Italy. All eyes were immediately turned toward the paper. The Negro girl customer was the first to speak.

She said, "Oh, that's all lies. Never believe all you read in the papers. You should learn to read in between the lines."

My proprietor friend with a keen sense of humor responded. "But, madam, how can you read in between the lines when there is nothing in between the lines?"

Praises Communist Daily

After the laughter occasioned by the above witty remark had died down, I then asked the Negro girl what paper she reads. With an air of pompous finality she gave the name of a Communist daily as "The only paper that prints the truth."

I then said, "Oh, that's interesting." "You know," I continued. "I used to read that paper until some time ago I read in one of its issues a stinging denunciation of two of my dearest friends, men who had spent most of their lives unselfishly working to promote the economic, cultural and political well being of the Negro and all other workers. Those men are A. Philip Randolph and Frank R. Crosswaith. They were referred to in that paper as traitors, warmongers and everything else but children of God."

"Are those men your friends?" she queried in a decidedly alarmed manner.

"Yes," said I, "and what is more they are very highly thought of by a great many people whose opinions mean something in America especially in the labor movement. This is especially true of Mr. Randolph whom I know far more intimately than I do the other fellow, Crosswaith."

Momentarily stunned, she soon recovered her composure however, and replied: "You see, those men are confused Socialists. They don't know what it is all about. They are betraying their race and the workers. They belong to the Wall Street gang of warmongers and the New Deal Fakers."

Breaking the death-like silence which naturally followed the above bit of information, my proprietor friend very naively inquired of the Negro girl "Who is that fellow Crosswaith? I don't think you know him."

Promptly. the young lady informed the proprietor the "Crosswaith was just an ordinary labor faker here in Harlem."

Relishing this bit of Communist information so generously volunteered by the young lady. I decided to turn the conversation back to the question of war. I thereupon expressed the hope that Britain finally defeat the totalitarian madmen of Europe, "Because, said I, "if Britain fails to do this, then the United States would eventually have to fight the dictators."

The lady very impolitely interrupted with "The Germans are alright. I have nothing against them. There are a lot of people right here who are worse than the Germans. I am for Peace. This garment I am buying is for my brother who is going to the forthcoming Chicago Peace Conference. He too is for Peace."

"But," I replied, "wouldn't he fight to preserve the measure of democracy we now enjoy in the United States and thus prevent its destruction by Hitler and his Axis partners?"

"No," she answered angrily, "why should he fight for this country? This country doesn't belong to him. But if he lived in Russia, that would be different, he would then be fighting for a country which belongs to him."

If We Lived In Russia

"But," I countered, "if we lived in Russia do you think we could engage in the kind of discusion we are now having? Is it not a fact that, in Russia, like in Germany, you cannot express a viewpoint differing from the ruling gang without being beheaded or otherwise penalized? Why even here in the United States," I continued, "we could rescue the Scottsboro boys from the gallows and freely express our views upon any question. regardless of who holds the opposite view, whereas you couldn't do that in Germany, Italy, Russia or in any of the countries they have conquered. Is it also not a fact that here in the United States we can organize politically and vote for which ever Party we choose, while in Germany, Russia and Italy there is only one Party?"

Her reply to this was: "Oh, that's just reactionary propaganda." "However," she continued, "I have to go. I am a W. P. A. worker. I was only kidding, I am not a Communist."

And with that final lie, she left the establishment without buying the garment for her brother to attend the forhcoming Peace Conference in Chicago as a representative of the Negro Race, but in reality a fifth columnist and naturally a Communist.

The Open Forum

The Negro Is Loyal To His Government

Editor, Journal and Guide: It is not the law that makes the discriminatory distinction in the payment of teachers' salaries. True it is that in describing the "powers and duties of the State Board of Education" it is said that "it shall have authority to make all needful rules and regulations for the management and conduct of the schools, which when published and distributed, shall have the force and effect of law," but nowhere has the State Board of Education made any rules and regulations for the management and conduct of the schools, which would authorize the payment of teacher 'A' less than it pays to Teacher 'B', for no other reason except one is a Negro, and the other is not.

The law is all right, but the blame is to be laid at the doors of the authorities whose duty it is to see that the law is properly interpreted and enforced.

Amidst all the wrongs the Negro has suffered, and which he is yet suffering he is a member of a race in this country which has never lifted up hands in opposition to the government yet when it comes to the distribution of gifts by the government, the share which the Negro receives, compared to those which are received by other races is as the crumbs begged for by Lazarus to the linen and fine apparel that the rich man wore, and the food upon which he fared sumptuously every day.

And yet, in the time of National need, the Negro is always counted upon to be among the first to offer their lives upon the altar for the salvation of the country.

It matters not to the Negro how loud the thunder, nor how dazzling the lightning's flash, like that other "Good soldier" his motto often is "None of these things move me." The Negro in the United States swears allegiance to only one government, and to the "Stars and Stripes' alone, he uncovers.

When this country is danger threatened, if it be true that actions speak louder than words then, the Negro, like that other patriot of long ago, might be heard saying: "My country. May she always be right; but, right or wrong My country."

—J. C. CARTER

Danville. Va.

Patriotism Of The Negro

At a meeting of more than a hundred Southern Negro leaders in Georgia, a resolution was passed demanding that Negroes be permitted to share in the work of national defense "in proportion to population." Note that they did not express mere willingness to do their part; they demanded that a full share of the load be laid upon them.

How far these leaders represent their race, no one can determine with mathematical accuracy, but most observers familiar with the situation are satisfied that they speak for a large proportion of the Negro population.

Some of the more addle-pated native Communists have dreamed of detaching the Negro from his loyalty to this country; and some foreign commentators have actually predicted that if any really desperate emergency arose, the United States would have trouble with its Negro citizens. But here is a statement which bespeaks among Negroes a desire to share to the full in the obligations and responsibilities toward which all elements in the nation are preparing to face up.

Such an attitude is not the less welcome because it was to have been expected from the beginning of our defense program.—The Baltimore Sun.

Sandersville. Ga., Progress
August 1, 1940

Whatever may be said of the Negroes of the United States they must be credited with patriotism. They are ready to respond to the call of our country in the performance of military duty, and with proper training they make desperate fighters in battles with the enemy, as was proven when they were sent to France in the World War. They are endowed with great strength and endurance and are ever ready to perform their full duty when their services are needed.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
August 31, 1940

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COMMUNISM CAUSES SPLIT IN CONGRESS

Randolph Resigns As The President; Crowd Boos Brown

WASHINGTON, May 3—(ANP)—A. Philip Randolph and the National Negro Congress came to the parting of the ways here Sunday night, when in the final meeting of the body Mr. Randolph clearly and concisely stated his difference of opinion with the trends indicated in the meeting and dispassionately refused to run for reelection to the post he had held continuously for the past three years.

Mr. Randolph's speech was, as usual, classic in its logic and delivery.

"It was reluctantly that I consented to serve as president of this organization when it was first organized in Chicago, but I sent a wire notifying the organization that I was not in a position to serve. However, I accepted the presidency when elected.

"At the second congress in Philadelphia, I declared it was impossible for me to continue as president of the congress, as I was not in the best of health and could not accept the responsibility for the policies of such a national organization. However, I agreed to serve again.

"I have come to the point, so far as I can see, when a departure has been made from the original program. Policies have been adopted to which I agree, and some have been adopted to which I am opposed. I would not be true to myself and because I am opposed to certain of the policies, it is impossible for me to continue as president of the congress.

"Rumors Untrue"

"Rumors of personal differences between John P. Davis and myself which have been circulated are absolutely untrue. I am very fond of John P. Davis and consider him capable and an able person. Now we disagree on certain policies. It is necessary that I disagree or an alliance with the labor non-partisan league.

"I am not in agreement with tieing the National Negro Congress too closely with the CIO and I am not in agreement with tieing the National Negro Congress with the A. F. of L.

"The reason is plain: When an organization is tied up, it loses in the nature of things its mass character. And it is utterly impossible to rally the mass of people in such manner.

Warns Delegates

"I am sorry the situation developed. I am compelled to warn the delegates of the congress against deleivering a tie-up with any political organization and there has been some trend to this.

"We have received large donations from the CIO organizations and the Communist party. This is not a healthy condition. The National Negro Congress must depend upon resources supplied by Negro people alone. The ground for my belief is that when you get your money, you get your ideas and control.

"We disagree on the question of the Soviet Union. I oppose the National Negro congress indicating in any way any sympathy for the Soviet Union. There have been some sentiments that in the event there is a war between Russia and the United States, the Negroes will not fight in a war against Russia.

Disagree On Policy

"We disagree on the question of policy. I have come to the conclusion reluctantly, I can no longer serve in the capacity as president of the congress, but I have no personal differences whatsoever with John P. Davis. On occasions, I have stated my position on questions whether you accept them or not."

Silence filled the vast auditorium as he stopped speaking. Then, there were ohs and ahs and a few scattering bits of applause from those who had admired the courageous statement from the man who had headed the organization through troublous formative years.

Quietly Mr. Randolph then turned and asked for the report of the nominating committee. The name of Max Yergan, former Y.M.C.A secretary for the work in South Africa, was presented, and the body elected him by acclamation.

Crowd Goes Haywire

Mr. Randolph turned the gavel over to Mr. Yergan with becoming dignity and then sat to watch the proceedings as the crowd went haywire after Yergan's speech of acceptance.

Named as vice presidents were Henry Johnson, Arthur Simmons, Rev. W. H. Jernagin, Rev. Owen Whitfield, Mrs. Fay Allen and Dr. C. H. Lewis. Jomn P Davis was continued as executive secretary and U. S. Tate as treasurer.

Earlier in the evening, William Patterson, chairman of the resolutions committee, had submitted his report in which it was stated that 95 resolutions had been heard by the committee and 73 accepted. Among them was the debated resolution on unity with Labor's Non-partisan league.

"Congress Kidnaped"

From the outset when the resolution was read to the body, it was evident that Randolph opposed it — he spoke so openly But the tenor of the entire body was against him and after a brief flurry of debate it was unanimously adopted thereby establishing what is believed to be a precedent in the organization, which had been previously non-committal to any political group.

Observers believed that this was the clincher which brought Mr. Randolph's statement.

Throughout the auditorium, there were mutterings by many who had followed the organization and felt that something worthwhile had been accomplished. However ,they now turned and declared the Communist party was "kidnaping" the National Negro Congress. Few had any other comment, especially those who were keen students of political science.

During the discussion on resolutions, Edgar Brown was summarily disposed of by Patterson, who said in reply to a question on a resolution: "You should know, you were present when the resolution committee met."

Brown Booed

Mr. Brown had asked that a resolution be adopted which he submitted that $1,500 be the minimum wage level for federal employes, and also sought to get information on his proposal that the resolution committee adopt a ruling on the abolition of photographs in the civil service and the forcing of appointing officials to select the person with the highest rating when sent out on a job.

Boos and hisses from the delegates were Mr. Brown's reward, although no action had been taken on his resolutions. In one instance it was reported that one of the resolutions came in too late.

Thoroughly tired, the 3,000 delegates, including many youths from all parts of the country, were happy to hear the new president, Max Yergan, sound the gavel ending the session and sending the third congress into the world under new leadership.

Whispers Begin

In the audience were many who had watched the congress from its inception and had hoped to see it continue under the leadership that had brought it thus far.

That there had been some difference of opinion was expressed earlier in the meeting when on opening night Randolph, in a masterful speech, had set forth his beliefs and blasted any idea that the Negro could expect hope from the Soviet Union and Communists.

However, on the second day of the congress, John P. Davis set forth his ideas which were a bit opposed to what Randolph had declared and the whisperings began as to the disagreement.

Although no open break has occurred between Randolph and Davis and Randolph has promised to lend his support to the movement, there are expressions of doubt prevalent that Randolph will continue to be active.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
August 1, 1940

3 Women Buy Communist Party Paper

New York, Aug. 1—(AP)—Three women of distinguished American ancestry today became the owners of the Daily Worker, heretofore the official organ of the Communist Party in the United States.

A statement said the women had formed the Freedom of the Press Company, Inc., which had purchased the Daily Worker and the Sunday Worker, adding: "We are the sole stockholders of that company and the only persons responsible for its formation."

Communist Party leaders William Z. Foster, chairman, and Earl Browder, general secretary, declared that as of today the newspaper ceases to be "the official central organ of the Communist Party." At the same time, they pledged the new owners "wholehearted" party support.

The new owners were listed as Mrs. Ferdinanda Reed, 63, granddaughter of the founder of the famed Brattleboro Sanatorium, Brattleboro, Vt.; Mrs. Caro Lloyd Strobbell, 81, native of Pekin, Ill., and a Vassar graduate; and Mrs. Susan H. Woodruff, 71, native of Tenafly, N. J., and an alumna of Smith College.

The women asserted in a statement they had formed the new publishing company in order to preserve the paper "as a medium of free expression in the interest of the working people of America."

"We realize that under the impact of swift social upheaval this freedom can be preserved from attack only by free and constant examination in the light of ever-changing conditions."

Named to an executive board to manage and edit the paper were: Louis F. Budenz, former editor of the Midwest People's Record of Chicago and convention president for the Communist Party in 1938; Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Negro staff member of the old Daily Worker; and Howard G. Boldt, all described as "newspapermen of proven ability."

Winston-Salem, N. C. Journal
August 9, 1940

Negro Patriotism

Nobody who knows the Southern Negro doubts for a moment his fundamental patriotism. With his white brother he stands in loyalty to his country. This was dramatically demonstrated during the War Between the States when Negroes even in the thrall of slavery stood loyally by their masters and mistresses and kept the farms going while "massa" was off to war. In some instances Negroes went with their masters. Comparatively few ran off to join the "Yankees."

The tradition of Negro loyalty is so well established that it is beyond challenge. But just the same it comes as welcome news that in a meeting of more than 100 Negro leaders in Georgia last week a resolution was passed demanding that Negroes be permitted to share in the national defense effort "in proportion to population." What these Negro leaders are asking is not only a share in the defense burden, but a full share.

NEGROES AND THE COMMUNISTS

One of the strongest pieces of evidence that a large number of Negroes are looking to the Communist party and are joining the ranks of that organization, was shown last week when A. Philip Randolph, former president of the National Negro Congress, quit that organization because of its Communistic tendencies. And while it is true that Mr. Randolph was greatly surprised at the conduct of those in attendance, yet, when the situation is studied from all angles, we see little at which to be surprised.

It will be remembered that this National Negro Congress was made up largely of young people. These young people want to "get somewhere." The mistreatments that are being heaped upon their race by their own government are constantly before their eyes and within their hearing. They have little hope for the future when, with every turn they make they are confronted with "You can't go here, you can't go there; you can't sit here, you can't sit there." And when they turn their minds toward their economic condition, they are met with, "You can't work here," or "You can't work there." Thus their economic outlook is anything but rosy or even hopeful. Many of the youth feel they are doomed to exist on the lowest economic level.

When they think of the security of life or limb, the lyncher's rope and the mob's torch are ever before them. And when they go into the temples of justice in some parts of this country, the color of their skin is the strongest factor in determining their guilt or innocence, and Justice is often blind in the courts of equity when their cases are being adjudicated.

With these and many more such injustices being constantly brought before the youth of the race, there is no wonder that they hissed the man that had tried to lead them for the past three years. It will be remembered in this connection, that A. Phillip Randolph is a strong leader. He has demonstrated his leadership under many very trying circumstances. He is just emerging from a twelve-year fight in the behalf of the Pullman porters of his race. But he did not realize the great change in the thinking of the youth of today. In fact, the masses of the people of our group today want to get somewhere. Our leaders have labored with this party and with that party for lo, these many years, but little has been gained with respect to our civil and political rights. Therefore, the masses are beginning to ask, "What hope have we?" The masses are proclaiming, "We want to get somewhere." Such cries and such declarations are becoming very embarrassing to Negro leadership, whether they like it or not. In our mass meetings and in our conferences where we endorse and pass resolutions, the question is sometimes asked, "Where do we go from here?" But going back home and doing the same old things in the same old way will no longer suffice. Mr. Randolph regarded the action of the Negro Congress as "dangerous." In fact it looked like a dangerous venture to us, also, but it may be that these people are thinking of the old saying, "Where there is nothing ventured, there is nothing gained." We well remember the time when A. Phillip Randolph was regarded as a radical or an adventurer, but today we honor him because of the ground he gained for many railroad workers of his race.

In this connection we are not taking the position that we endorse the action of the Negro Congress. We are merely citing the probable cause of such action with the hope that our leaders will take warning as to what might take place at any time and at almost any place where the injustices to our race are aired, while the Communists are offering them a land of "milk and honey."

Radicalism In The South

The white people of the South no longer stand as a unit on traditions regarding the Negro since his emancipation. Some of the most militant workers in bringing about a change in conditions among Negroes are of Southern states. In the Youth movement it is more spectacular. At the American Youth Congress in Lake Geneva a few weeks ago Southern whites and Southern Negroes ate in the same cafeterias and slept in the same lodging place, appeared on committees and programs together while their people back home were opposing any form of social equality and blaming outside agitators for putting such ideas in the Negroes mind.

The most striking example of radicalism in the South occurred in Birmingham recently when 600 white street car motormen and conductors refused to cross a picket line of Negro track workers for the City Transportation System. Would anybody dream of white men, Southern born and Southern reared would tie up city transportation to protect Negroes?

The incident is typical of what the South might expect from John L. Lewis' program.

Another stirring demonstration of radicalism in the South happened at Memphis, Tenn., the capital of the deep South, were whites and Ngroes attend a two week training school for leadership sponsored by the "communist dominated" Sharecroppers' Union, affiliate of the CIO. These white and Negro students hailed from Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas and Alabama.

A few weeks ago at Austin. Congressman Dies Committee on Investigating Un-American Activities said there were less Fifth Columns in the South because there were less foreigners. The committee is perhaps correct if it confines the statement to those working to overthrow our government but, it is obvious that the Fifth Column are more active in the South working from a different angle. In the South the primary problem of the subvertors it to use the Negro as an entering wedge. They realize that they can best interest the Negro and the poor whites by showing an interest in their living conditions, work and wage conditions. These Fifth Columns make the two classes believe if they unite they can free themselves from oppression. When the subvertors complete this step in the South they will have won the confidence of the poor whites and Negroes then the field will be fertile for the real purpose of the Fifth Columns that are operating throughout the world.

White and Negro leadership in every community in the South defeat the subvertors by giving more consideration to Negro problems such as education, employment and his constitutioal rights to participate in governmental affairs as other citizens.

The Negro is not interested in social equality, racial or political domination where he happens to be the majority, nor is he interested in any government except American, but there is a danger of his being misled into questionable movements. Negro Chambers of Commerce, civic leagues and similar organizations are necessary in every community to work with white groups in making the needs of the Negroes known without influence of outside agitators.

"Reds In Harlem Schools"

DEC 21 1940

Dear Sir:—Your headline news article in this week's issue, (Dec. 14, 1940) on "Reds in Harlem Schools" has been read with keen and alert interest.

The Permanent Committee for Better Schools in Harlem organized and functioning for the improvement of the physical conditions of school buildings; the educational and moral advancement of the Harlem children; as well as a better understanding and closer co-operation by our parents, children, teachers and those who supervise or administer these Harlem schools. For four years in a faithful and consistent devotion this Committee has pursued its task. In the prosecution of its work it has displeased some who have been annoyed by our unrelenting insistence upon proper treatment of the children of the Harlem Community.

The Committee yields to no one; whatever his race, color or creed, in its loyal devotion to the noblest and highest American ideals for the schools and their administration in the Harlem community. If there are any sinister influences at work in the Harlem schools the Committee would be glad to know it.

We fear that we are fully convinced that there are influences being used to discourage self-expression by parents or others who seek relief from school irregularities or discriminatory practices. We fear that this hysteria about "Reds in Harlem Schools" is another attempt to frighten those who demand of our school authorities the justice and fair play which the Harlem children deserve. The Rapp-Coudert Committee seeks to reduce the State appropriation for education. Whenever there are educational cuts in the State funds our Harlem community suffers proportionately more.

We shall await your future revelations.

The Rev. JOHN W. ROBINSON,
Chairman Permanent Committee
for Better Schools in Harlem.
Harlem.

DIES COMMITTEE LISTS TWO RACE ORGANIZATIONS AS "RED"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Two colored organizations, the National Youth Congress and the Southern Negro Youth Congress, were listed by the Dies Committee probing un-American activities, as "front organizations of the Communist Party" in its report submitted last week.

Talladega, Ala., Daily Home
March 6, 1940

RED AND BLACK

A red-black or black-red was heard Tuesday before the senate committee hearing on the anti-lynching bill. He was Benjamin Davis, Negro communist associate editor of the Daily Worker, communist newspaper, who must have taken his cue from John L. Lewis as he took occasion to brand Vice President Garner as an "evil old labor baiter" and accused him of agreeing with President Roosevelt "to scuttle the anti-lynch bill." He also referred to Southern congressmen as "stooges for the landlords and mill owners" and made himself otherwise offensive to even the members of the committee who favor passage of the anti-lynching bill. Of course the black-red was using the opportunity to appear before the committee to spread communist propaganda which was quite apparent and no one or no thing was hurt except communism. The combination of black and red as it was dispayed before the senate committee may have been admired in Moscow but it created nothing but disgust in this country.

Gastonia, N. C. Gazette
March 7, 1940

COMMUNISM SHOWS ITSELF

Just exactly the brand of swine that the New York Communists are was shown in the hearing on the anti-lynching bill before the Senate judiciary committee a few days ago, when Ben Davis, one of the editors of The Daily Worker, testified before the committee. We read from a Washington dispatch:

The impudence-packed statement of Benjamin J. Davis, Negro associate editor of the Communist newspaper, The Daily Worker, brought from Senator Van Nuys, sponsor of the bill, the declaration that Davis had done more to damage the bill's chances of passage than any other action that has yet occurred.

So closely did the remarks of the former Negro Atlanta lawyer border on slander and personal insult of members of Congress, that committee members jumped to their feet on several occasions to warn that a repetition of statement would cause him to be thrown from the hearing room by capitol police.

At the outset Senator Van Nuys was opposed to his testifying, but the committee voted to permit him 15 minutes. Before he began Van Nuys exhibited a copy of The Daily Worker containing charges that the committee was seeking to pigeon-hole the bill.

"That is an insult and will not be repeated in this committee room," Van Nuys told the witness.

The bulky Communist-leader replied that he was only seeking to brand committee maneuverings as a subterfuge to keep from passing the bill, and reminded the committee that it was their "plain duty" to approve the measure and that it was the "plain duty" of the Senate to pass it.

He told the committee that the opponents of the bill were backed by "southern mill owners and landlords who are stooges for Wall street capitalists and who use the Ku Klux Klan and similar organizations to weaken the labor movement and prevent the Negro people from exercising rights guaranteed by the Constitution."

"The shameless tactics of Senator Connally...." he began, but got no further as several committee members, including Senator Connally, rose in protest.

"You will refer to members of Congress only in a respectful manner," Chairman Van Nuys charged him angrily shaking his finger at him. "The rules of the Senate forbid even a member of the Senate making such slanderous remarks as you are making. You have crashed the gates of this hearing, and if this type of statement is repeated again, I shall see that you are removed."

That is the sort of man who is helping to edit and manage the daily newspaper of the Communist party. He is the type of dangerous Negro, insolent, impudent, smart, educated and bellicose. He is the sort of Negro that inflames Southern mobs to lynching.

Davis is an exact reproduction of some of the slimy and filthy folks who infested Gastonia in 1929, with the exception of the change in color. Some of the whites who plagued us that spring were no better than this fellow Davis.

Knowing all this, it is hard to see how decent white folks, especially those living in the South and in cultured communities in the South, could line up with trash like this. There are Communists in the South, in North Carolina, in some of our most refined and cultured communities, and how they can stomach such as the above is beyond us. They are all tarred with the same stick, in the estimation of thousands of their fellow North Carolinians.

Communism should have received a death blow on the occasion of the recent meeting of the American Youth Congress in Washington. The conduct and behavior of the delegates to that convention shocked and disgusted the nation. The tone and actions of Ben Davis ought to have added to the heavy score against the Communists.

We repeat again that we cannot understand how decent and self-respecting white folks can subscribe to the same doctrines.

Greensboro, N. C. Record
March 11, 1940

A Mouthy Disturber

WHEN Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., of Atlanta, negro lawyer and a Communist, appeared in Washington the other day before a senate committee conducting hearings on the so-called anti-lynching bill he made insulting remarks about senators and cast aspersions upon the United States government. His language provoked a rebuke from Senator Van Nuys, supporter of the measure in behalf of which Davis appeared. He said Davis had done more to prevent passage of the bill than anyone who appeared before the committee.

The Record does not favor the so-called anti-lynching bill, because it is not equitable, and because its passage would do more harm than good. The Record is pleased that the measure seems doomed.

As for Davis, it was lucky for this misguided and mouthy individual that he was spouting in Washington, rather than in Moscow or Berlin. It is not difficult to imagine what disposition would have been made of this impudent fellow had he insulted government officials of the nazi reich or of the red regime in Russia. Here, it seems, there is freedom of speech even to the point of insulting government officials and mocking democratic government.

Davis, as the Lynchburg (Va.) News rightly points out, doesn't give a rap whether the anti-lynch bill passes or doesn't pass. In Washington, before the committee, he wasn't speaking for the bill, nor against lynching, but, as our Virginia contemporary says, "He was speaking for the Communist party whose political organ he helps edit."

Such persons as Davis have a right under our government to free speech, but such freedom does not or should not mean that they have a right to insult our government and its officials. What a pity Communists, or Communist-admirers, such as this Atlanta darkie, could not be immediately dispatched to Russia and turned over to Joe Stalin for disposition or placement as he might see fit. How much smoother and better racial relations would be in our country were it not for self-centered and cantankerous disturbers and trouble-makers such as Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
March 6, 1940

Vice-President Called Names By Negro Red

Communist Appears At House Hearing

WASHINGTON, March 5 (AP)—While Senate sponsors of anti-lynching legislation protested that he was hurting their cause, Benjamin Davis, Negro Communist, called Vice-President Garner an "evil old labor baiter" today and accused him of agreeing with President Roosevelt to "scuttle" the Anti-Lynch Bill.

Davis, who identified himself as an associate editor of the Daily Worker, Communist newspaper, testified at a tumultous hearnig before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee considering an anti-lynching bill already passed by the House. The measure would provide penalties for counties and county officials in event of a lynching.

The Negro's remarks about the President and Vice-President and his reference to Southern members of Congress as "stooges for the landlords and mill-owners who degrade white womanhood by refusing to pay them a living wage," were stricken from the hearing record by Chairman Van Nuys (D., Ind.)

Van Nuys, himself a sponsor of anti-lynching legislation, warned the witness repeatedly against referring to members of Congress and threatened at one point to call capitol police and have him taken away.

"You crashed the gates of this committee just to try and send out Communist propaganda," Van Nuys declared. "You have done more harm to prevent passage of this bill than anyone who has ever appeared."

Union, S. C., Times
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"A husky negro commun[illegible]nin Davis of New York City, threw a Senate hearing on anti-lynching legislation into turmoil today by terming Southern senators 'stooges' and Vice-President Garner an 'evil old labor baiter'," said an Associated Press dispatch yesterday.

"You crashed the gates of this committee just to try to send out communist propaganda," said Senator Van Nuys (D.-Ind.), the chairman of the judiciary subcommittee conducting the hearing and co-sponsor of the lynching bill. He further said: "You have done more harm to prevent passage of this bill than anyone who has ever appeared." Davis, before he was stopped by the chairman, further said that Senate opponents of the bill were "stooges for landlords and mill owners who are degrading white womanhood by paying low wages in their mills."

All we care to say about this incident at present is that it will produce more "night riders" and makes it a certainty that the anti-lynching bill will not be passed by the present or any future Congress. It has been stated time and time again that the bill is not needed, for lynching has almost disappeared in the South. It has further been shown (conclusively, we think) that the bill is aimed specifically at the South, and as a bait by Northern politicians to bait the negro vote in the North. It can but work against the peace and dignity of the nation, and, if enacted and enforced, would virtually overthrow the liberty of the states, at least such liberty as has not already been destroyed. It is a grave menace, too, against the peace and dignity of the state.

It is perhaps true that Davis has, by his speech, done more to defeat the bill than any other individual.

Nashville, Tenn. Tennessean
August 15, 1940

CITY NEGROES SAID LOYAL TO AMERICA

Group Appointed by Mayor To Probe Fifth Column Activities Reports

The special committee appointed by Mayor Thomas L. Cummings to investigate fifth column activities among Negroes has reported to the Negro Ministers' Conference that a month's investigation disclosed "unquestioned loyalty to American institutions" among all classes of Negroes.

Quoting Minard Johnson's phrase, "being black means being above suspicion," the committee cited the war records of Negroes in the past and deplored the fact that American leaders do not make greater use of Negroes in the defense program.

Members of the committee are the Rev. Russell C. Barbour, pastor of the First Negro Baptist Church, chairman; and Mrs. J. F. Pierce, president of the Negro Federated Women's Clubs of Tennessee, secretary.

Negroes and Communism

NOV 29 1940

When the question "What about communism and the Negro?" is asked nowadays, there is an undertone of grave concern in it. There speaks conscience.

The Call

Communism in the United States has climbed to a place on the ballot. It has supporters of the parlor pink tea kind. It is another minor party, even though it has in it spiritual brothers, if not agents of the Reds of Russia. With all this understood, the condemnation of the communist party is largely perfunctory until Negroes' connection with it comes under consideration.

Kansas City, Mo.

There are Negroes in the communist party. It troubles little that they are important enough to have one of their number its vice presidential candidate. The point of deep concern is that communists believe and practice a levelling of classes which makes them oblivious of the custom of race segregation here in America. That fact begets the fear that Negroes will get their appetites for equality whetted and with the example of the revolutionists keying them up may become willing tools of the internationalists and Joseph Stalin. That is a possibility to be sure, and fear of it puts an edge on the question "What about communism and the Negro?"

More than a decade ago when communism was a voice crying from afar off, this paper said that a political philosophy which appealed to the discontented would have attraction for Negroes, and it solemnly warned the American people to let down the barriers raised by race prejudice to the point that hope would displace despair for them. We pointed out that in a struggle where need inspired the fighting, it was always the lean who whipped the fat. We said there was plenty in the United States for everybody; that this country had nowhere near exhausted its resources: that no one had to starve for another to eat; that it was unreasonable for an immigrant right off the boat to be accepted in employment that was denied to an American Negro whose roots had been in this soil since the nation began. Logically the way to stop communism for him was to let up on proscription and prejudice.

What we asked was no experiment in the dark. The United States had experienced the virtue that lay in the plan. In 1917 when it girded itself for war, it called Negroes to service with assurances that service in arms was a down payment on equal citizenship. Negro soldiers overseas won medals of valor and made records in the handling of supplies. Their relatives at home bought Liberty bonds. Then they came home and hardly got off the boat until the South said sternly "Get back in your place!" and the North resumed its old policy of expecting them to be good citizens without giving them equal opportunity to earn a living.

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NEGRO AND RADICALISM- 1940

Hunting Down the Radicals

Governor Rivers is to be warmly commended for his decision to take prompt and vigorous measures for driving from the state any members of the "fifth column" who may threaten the peace and security of the government and people of the United States.

He makes special mention of Communists and "Silver Shirt" members.

The governor has called on Attorney General Arnall to furnish him with a compilation of Georgia laws aimed at sedition and promises to call the general assembly into special session if existing laws are not adequate. He has notified President Roosevelt of his decision in this matter.

Some very mischievous chickens are now coming home to roost. We are reminded that Fort Benning and Fort McPherson offer special targets for sabotage and the governor has heard that seditious meetings are being held every night in Atlanta.

The temptation is very strong to say, "I told you so."

This newspaper has constantly protested against the tenderness with which Communists and other radicals have been treated in this country. The present administration at Washington, on the other hand, has sought to stifle the Dies committee and has coddled men like Harry Bridges.

The culmination came in the case of Angelo Herndon, a Negro Communist who was sentenced to prison by the Georgia courts for circulating literature which advocated the overthrow of the government by force and violence. One document in his possession, said the Young Communist League would "banish the Gods from the skies and the capitalists from the earth."

But in 1936 the supreme court of the United States, by a 5 to 4 decision, held that the Georgia statute under which Herndon was convicted was a violation of freedom of speech and also was so vague that it "set up no ascertainable standard of guilt."

It seems certain on its face, therefore, that Georgia's penal laws will have to be strengthened and even then the anti-American vermin may all be turned loose by the present court of last resort.

It is rather tardy to be wise after the event, but it is just possible that the general assembly can clarify and strengthen our penal laws to a point where even the Ku Kluxer, Hugo Black, in this hour of peril, will have to sustain them.

Bishopville, S. C., Messenger
May 2, 1940

NEGROES SPLIT ON MERITS COMMUNISM

Washington, April 27.—The National Negro congress heard from its leaders today divergent views on the merits of Communism as practiced in the Soviet union.

John P. Davis, of Washington, secretary of the organization, referred in his annual report, to the "real and genuine equal rights and freedom" of minority groups in the Soviet.

But A. Philip Randolph, of New York, president of the congress, who said some Negroes "place their hopes in the Soviet union," he declared:

"Their hopes are vain and unsubstantial, for the Soviet union, too, is an imperial power and seeks, like Japan, the extension and expansion of its power over weaker peoples, regardless of color."

On one thing all speakers before approximately 3,000 delegates to the conference agreed—opposition to any participation by the United States in European wars. On that point Davis declared that the administration's policies "menace our neutrality and our peace."

Most speakers, too, referred to a need for anti-lynching legislation and insisted that poll tax laws should be repealed.

"Our congress," Davis said, "has the duty to say to the politicians of the country that no party will get the 4,000,000 Negro votes in the North which does not guarantee the ballot to the voteless Negroes in the South."

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
April 28, 1940

NEGROES ARE TOLD ABOUT COMMUNISM

U.S. Activity in Europe's War Strongly Opposed by National Group

WASHINGTON, April 27 (AP).—The national Negro congress heard from its leaders today divergent views on the merits of communism as practiced in the soviet union.

John P. Davis, of Washington, secretary of the organization, referred in his annual report to the "real and genuine equal rights and freedom" of minority groups in the soviet.

But A. Philip Randolph, of New York, president of the congress, who said some Negroes "place their hopes in the soviet union," declared:

"Their hopes are vain and unsubstantial, for the soviet union, too, is an imperial power and seeks, like Japan, the extension and expansion of its power over weaker peoples, regardless of color."

On one thing all speakers before the approximately 3,000 delegates to the conference agreed — opposition to any participation by the United States in European wars. On that point Davis declared that the administration's policies "menace our neutrality and our peace."

Most speakers, too, referred to a need for anti-lynching legislation, and insisted that poll tax laws should be repealed.

"Our congress," Davis said, "has the duty to say to the politicians of the country that no party will get the 4,000,000 Negro votes in the north which does not guarantee the ballot to the voteless Negroes in the south."

In discussing communism, Davis asserted that a "chief diversion being practiced by the makers of war, by American reactionaries, by reactionaries everywhere, is the attempt to create diversion by organizing and inciting a war against the soviet union."

"I have visited the soviet union," he continued. "I have talked to the soviet people. I have witnessed their accomplishments and achievements. I know of their ideals and aspirations."

Randolph, in the president's address, referred directly to the communist party in the United States in an analysis of political parties from the Negro standpoint. He declared that the communist party "stems from communist Russia" and its "program, tactics and strategy are as fitful, changeful and unpredictable as the foreign policy and line of Moscow. . . . The Negroes do not reject the communist party because it is revolutionary or radical, or because of its alleged extremism. They reject the communist party because it is controlled and dominated by a foreign state whose policy may or may not be in the interest of the United States, or the Negro people."

He asserted the republican party "is no longer a progressive force," adding that "it stands for child labor, its dominant spokesmen are opposed to bona fide collective bargaining of workers."

The democratic party, he told the convention "is no better." This party, he continued, "is saddled by the solid south, which boldly boasts of its disfranchisement of and opposition to the Negro people. The southern wing upholds the terrorism of the Ku-Klux Klan, peonage, an outrageous share-crop system and a willful group of its demagogues filibuster to death every anti-lynching bill that is presented to the senate."

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
June 4, 1940

NEGROES NOT COMMUNISTS

Evidence accumulates to show that the effort of the Communists to effect a lodgment among the Negroes of the United States has signally failed.

Congressman Hamilton Fish, more than any member of Congress with the exception of Representative Martin Dies, has called attention to the "red" menace in the United States. It is not to be presumed, therefore, that he has underestimated the ability of the Communists to effect a lodgment among the Negroes of this country.

Emphasizing their loyalty and the poor prospect that any of them could be induced to be "fifth columnists," the New York Congressman recently observed:

"There are very few Negroes in any way affiliated with the Communist Party. Communists have done everything in their power to exploit the injustices and inequalities that may exist among the colored people of America. The Communists were very hopeful that they could go a long way by exploiting these injustices and thus turn the American Negroes into Communists; but I want to go on record as saying that 99½ per cent of the American Negroes are loyal American citizens."

The Jackson Clarion-Ledger asserts that the opinion of the leaders of both races in Mississippi is confirmatory of the opinion that Mr. Fish expresses.

Evidence to the same effect could be readily ascertained in Tennessee.

URGES RACE SHOW LOYALTY TO UNCLE SAM

We Are Americans, First Last, Always!' Cites Cleveland Doctor

By CLEVELAND G. ALLEN

NEW YORK—Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, president of Palmer Memorial institute, at Sedalia, N. C., speaking at the sixty-second anniversary and reunion of Mt. Olivet Baptist church, Rev. Dr. O. Clay Maxwell, pastor, last Wednesday urged Negroes of America to be loyal to the country.

"We are Americans first and Americans last," said Dr. Brown, "and I do not want Negroes in times like these to be disloyal. I want to see Old Glory displayed on all sides."

Dr. Brown warned the Race against turning to Communism as a way out. "The Negro has nothing to be gained from Communism," she said. She said that the Negroes of America will fight for this country to help save democracy for the world.

A large audience made up of member and friends of the church was present. L. Johnson Warner one of the officers of the church presided. Dr. Brown was presented by Dr. Maxwell as an outstanding educator, author, and lecturer and "An apostle of culture to the youth of America."

Randolph Denounces Communism; Tells Why He Quit Congress Group

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., June 28 (ANP)—Reasons explaining why A. Philip Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, resigned from the National Negro Congress when that body accepted support from Communists and John L. Lewis were brought out in Randolph's recent Commencement address at Lincoln university.

Randolph said that the Communist party is "unsound and disastrous in tactic, strategy and allegiance to the Soviet Union. Since the Communist party in America stems from Communist Russia", he said, "it's policies and program tactics and strategy are fitful, changeful and unpredictable as the foreign policy and line of Moscow."

Denying that the Communists are concerned primarily with the needs of the Negro laborer in America, Randolph asserted that the Reds are concerned with "the fulfilling and carrying out of the needs and demands of the consolidation of the foreign position of the Soviet Union in world politics.

"Hence, the rapid, amazing anl ridiculous shift in its line on trade union methods, peace and war, the doctrine of self-determination of smaller nationalities, fascism, nazism, unity of the American labor movement, the Negro liberation movement, the New Deal, the Popular Front, the League of Nations, Democracy, collective security and a third term."

Because of this, "for anyone to take the position that the Negroes should place their fortunes at the feet of the Communist party, which is subject to such violent and far-reaching shake-ups, a party which lacks stability of purpose, and serves a foreign master, is passing strange.

"This does not imply that Negroes should refuse to support movements and programs merely because Communists may espouse them. Should anyone contend that Negroes should not oppose America's entering the war only because Communists take that line, even though the Communists may have different reasons? Certainly not.

"Negroes should oppose America's entrance into the war solely because it is certain to mean the restruction of American democracy, without which the Negro's chance for progress and justice is hopeless, since they would be shorne of the rights of protest and petition.

"How can the Soviet Union, thousands of miles removed from the domestic problems of Negroes in these United States, have the knowledge and wisdom to supply the leadership in the Communist party, to formulate and direct the execution of a program for the solution of Negro problems

"The claim that such a possibility exists is utterly fantastic and absurd It simply doesn't make good sense! Of course, this does not mean that the Negro, because he is a Negro, should not join the Communist party. No—not at all.

"While one may question the soundness of his judgment, but we would fight for his right to exercise it, to join the Communist party or any other political organizations he chooses.

"The Negroes do not reject the Communist party because it is revolutionary or radical, or because of its alleged extremism. They reject the Communist party because it is controlled and dominated by a foreign state whose policy may, or may not be in the interest of the United States, or the Negro people. Moreover, Negroes cannot afford to add the handicap of being BLACK the handicap of being RED. Negroes! Loyal to the United States!"

Kiss of Death

TO most Americans, and especially to Virginians, Communism is anathema, repugnant and repulsive, during these tense days. Anything that Communists make a pretense of approving is certain to be condemned by most people, or abandoned by many thoughtful, tolerant people, who shy away from anything associated with Communism just as they would avoid the fangs of a rattlesnake. People do this because they know that to accept the support of the Communists is to receive the kiss of death.

The Communists have a way of projecting themselves at any time and place which will afford them the spotlight. They will not fail to use this spotlight to perform in the name of Communism. In the traditional manner a Communist, or some Communists, threw a monkey wrench into the Citizens Committee efforts to bring about a reopening of the Norfolk Housing Authority matter, by circulating a letter or paper attacking Capt. Joseph D. Wood, member of City Council.

This uninvited, unwelcome, utterly inept action on the part of Communist crackpots did the cause a lot of harm. Unfortunately, it silenced some influential support among local people.

The Communists are keen opportunists. They are quick to sense an opening and to take advantage of it. It is characteristic of the Communists that their circular, which directed people to a post office box in Richmond for further information, quoted almost word for word an inept statement made on the floor of the public mass meeting at which the Citizens Committee was formed.

Intelligent people should know when it is unwise to speak everything that is in their minds. But there are many who don't. Unfortunately our group is afflicted with too many people who do not know when silence is golden.

NEGRO AND RADICALISM - 1940

Communism Beckons?

The resignation of A. Phillip Randolph from the presidency of the National Negro Congress brings to light certain information we have been seeking for some time regarding this very new uplift movement. We have been under the impression that the Secretary of the Congress was in fact the actual head of the organization, and that the gullible president would some day wake up to discover what is going on.

You see we have wondered all along just how an organization could spring up over night, and presto, immediately become sufficiently endowed with funds providing travel expense over the nation for its officials. In the past thirty years this writer has organized too many things requiring the coin of the realm to allow the gyrations of certain officials of the National Negro Congress to disallusion us.

We have said some of what we are saying here to John W. Davis in person. We thought from the beginning that the National Negro Congress was at its best a duplication of effort, so we steadfastly refused to have anything to do with it. There is nothing that has been attempted by the Congress up to this point that is not a part of the general program of the N. A. A. C. P. We were unable to discover anything in the movement other than a desire of some person or persons to uselessly stand out in front.

Nothing we shall say here is in condemnation of Communists, but we are addressing ourselves more to duplicity and dessembling. We have high regard for William L. Patterson, Negro, executive secretary of the International Labor Defense, and avowed Communist, because he has the courage of his convictions. As a writer for the Daily Worker and a crusader for the things that ought to be Patterson has shown courageous leadership and we believe in his absolute sincerity, although we in no wise endorse the economic nostrums of Communists.

But we do revolt against a wolf in sheep's clothing. We are opposed to the efforts of any man to lead Negroes off into a given direction, without taking those Negroes fully into his confidence. Communists in financing the National Negro Congress are doing nothing more than capitalism does when it is convenient and profitable so to do. But former President Randolph hits the bull's eye when during his swan song when he advised that those who finance programs give orders, and fix policies.

The name National Negro Congress suggests thought of the cumulative and free expression of black folk. Most of those who have been attending the Congress have been assuming it to be a forum dedicated to fostering the ideals, longings and objectives of America's largest minority group. We were told that the declarations of the Congress formed a general cross section of black American thought.

But if A. Phillip Randolph tells the truth the National Negro Congress is nothing more than a Communist front. As such it is not a wholly useless organization. The Randolph discovery is valuable in that it identifies and properly labels the effort.

Nobody is going to scare The Black Dispatch away from some of the ideals and objectives of Communists. Communists believe in racial equality and so does The Black Dispatch. Communists would rid the world of "nationalism" and so would The Black Dispatch. The only place where we separate from Communism is regarding its economic theories. We cannot swallow the property idiologies of Stalin, but we recognize that this revolutionally political organization like individuals, has its virtues and it faults.

Just at this time we are gravitating towards a presidential election. We realize fully that people get excited and are on their nerves more than during normal moments. Suggestions that the National Negro Congress has gone Communistic, and that John L. Lewis will through the CIO annex the Negro vote of America to improve his chances as a presidential candidate drops like a dynamite bomb in the ranks of the two major political parties.

A recent poll made by Dr. Gallup, and released by the American Institute of Public Opinion shows that in such states as Illinois, New Jersey, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio a shift of from nine to ten points in voting may carry these states Democratic. In Missouri, West Virginia, Deleware, Indiana and New York a similar shift may carry the state for the Republican party. In each of these states the Negro vote has the power to form such shifts and this is why so much hysteria develops when over-night it looks as though Communists and the CIO are about to gobble up and control the black votes in these vital states.

But the excitement developing in the ranks of politicians whose only ambition is to seek votes does not disturb us. We are more interested in the reason why Negroes could or would be attracted by the Communist party. There is no reason why Negroes should be chided for looking towards Communists without realizing that there is a cause. America should not make a sham of its democracy and condemn those who hate shams and who long for the type of democracy guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

We are also interested in why Negroes could or would be interested in the CIO, and why would any Negro leaders turn in that direction? A sincere desire on the part of America to solve these two riddles will do more for the cause of democracy and the high ideals of the founding fathers than the election of any of the candidates now running for the presidency of the United States.

The Bible says that "Truth can belch from the bowels of iniquity." When Communists denounce the Scottsboro outrage, and wrest Angelo Herndon from Georgia chain gangs; when the Reds raise their voices against lynching and demand the passage of laws against mob murder, it ought to be perfectly understandable to those who now express astonishment, the reason why many, many Negroes have kindly thoughts about a political organization which gets its orders from Moscow.

This writer if fighting against segregation, separate schools, disfranchisement and anti-marriage laws. Communists fight also for this type of improvement in government. Is it not easy to see why Communists and Negroes

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"There are very few Negroes in any way affiliated with the Communist party. Communists have done everything in their power to exploit the injustices and inequalities that may exist among the colored people of America. The Communists were very hopeful that they could go a long way by exploiting these injustices and thus turn the American Negroes into Communists; but I want to go on record as saying that 99½ per cent of the American Negroes are loyal American citizens."

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This writer if fighting against segregation, separate schools, disfranchisement and anti-marriage laws. Communists fight also for this type of improvement in government. Is it not easy to see why Communists and Negroes have community of interests. It ought be equally easy to see that if America desires a right about face on the part of thousands who listen to the seductive call of the Reds, that the best way to bring this situation about is to halt the activities of the Klan and its chauvanistic activities; to give black folk the benefits of education; to rid the south of racial wage differentials and allow all citizens to have equal share and inflence in government.

As we said at the outset our belief is that John W. Davis and those who lead the folk joined together in the National Negro Congress ought to be honest. They ought be willing to let folk know who is financing the organization. No one wants to be a jumping jack even for his friend. If the Communists are calling the numbers and arranging the program of the Congress we ought to know this and there should be no doubt in our minds as to what we are doing. A. Phillip Randolph has rendered a great service by "pullin' Kivver."

In the meantime let no one be misled by this express. Let no one lose sight of the important issues that jut out of the allignment of a few Negroes with Communism. In these columns just a few days ago we said that liberal whites such as connected with the Southern Con-

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West Palm Beach, Fla. Times
May 4, 1940

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS

NEGRO WARNS HIS RACE

From the head of the Pullman porters' union last week, negroes who have been listening to the siren song of the Communists heard a timely and intelligent warning. A. Philip Randolph, speaking to the National Negro congress of which he is president, said:

The Communist party is not primarily or fundamentally concerned with the negro or labor in America, but in fulfilling and carrying out the needs and demands of the consolidation of the foreign position of the Soviet Union in world politics.

That fact, no doubt, is as plain to most negroes as it is to most whites. It was well to have it said by an outstanding negro, nevertheless, because the Communists have undoubtedly been trying to appeal to negroes, particularly in those parts of the United States where the negro problem is worst. In Florida, for instance, the proportion of negro Communists reported in 1938 was about twice as great as the proportion of white Communists. Approximately one Florida negro in 1,000 is a Communist, and one Florida white person in more than 2,000.

The disparity is not great, and it was to be expected. Communism has never made much headway except in the presence of poverty and there is unquestionably more poverty among negroes, North and South, than there is among whites. While that condition exists the negro is bound to be mildly susceptible to the wiles of insincere groups claiming to take his interests seriously.

But that is precisely what the Communists are not doing, as Randolph pointed out. Their eyes are on Russia, and their sympathy with the oppressed negro is no more sincere than their regard for the oppressed Poles and Finns.—St. Petersburg Independent.

Orangeburg, S. C., Times & Dems.
April 29, 1940

NEGROES, C.I.O. AND COMMUNISM.

John L. Lewis, militant head of the CIO, asks Negroes to make common cause with him and invites them to political cooperation with the CIO.

The third National Negro Congress, meeting in Washington, which heard the Lewis appeal, took its cue from John P. Davis, its secretary, and swallowed the Lewis bait, hook, line and sinker.

It rejected the wiser counsel of a Philip Randolph, president of the International Brotherhood, president of the International condemned the American Communist party and warned that "the Negroes cannot afford to add to the handicap of being 'black' the handicap of being 'red.'"

Davis expressed his sympathy with the aspirations of the people who live under a Soviet and added that the American Negro people will "refuse to follow American imperialism in its attack upon the Soviet."

Of course, too much importance should not be attached to the statements of one speaker. He does not speak for the Negroes of the South, we feel sure, and if he speaks for the mass of Negroes in the North we would be surprised.

The Times and Democrat has considerable faith in the good sense of the better-class Negroes in the South. They face problems we know, and they should have the cooperation of the better-class white people in the work of solving them.

While some few of our Negroes may be misguided by the oratorical outbrusts of their racial brothers "up North" most of them are patiently waiting for the solution of problems that will eventually result from the cooperation of the two races in the Southern States.

Action Should Be Taken On Dies Reports

Negro Labor Reds

For nearly four years the Dies Committee on un-American activities have released startling information as to subverse movements in this country. It has reported sabotaging espionaging and other Fifth Column activities. It has pointed out the extent of Communism in Labor unions, various civic organizations and even in colleges and universities. It has put its fingers on the un-American activities of Harry Bridges, a West Coast Labor leader. It has told about the Communist domination of the American Youth Congress and the National Negro Congress. It has told of German bunds and has pointed out its leaders and still no concerted action has been taken on these findings.

The Civil Liberties Union said in its report, as published in a Socialist paper, "Despite the vast propaganda against Communism and the prejudice against Communists, the net total of casualties was slight. Not a single Communist was prosecuted during the year for political activities, save on charges dissassociated from civil right, as in the fraudulent passport cases. No Communist party member is serving a jail sentence for political activity. No political case arose in the exclusion of aliens, and, so far as the records show no radical party members were deported. But court cases are an inadequate index of interference with the rights of Communists. In a few cases Communist meetings have been interfered with by police or hoodlum."

It appears to us, some definite action will have to be taken soon to curb the movement in this country to over-throw our government. Our democratic form of goverment cannot survive if we continue to permit large sums of money to be spent under well trained propagandists for its destruction. France, Norway and Denmark have paid for this lethargy. Even England was forced to put on the purge before the zero hour.

One of the first things that Germany did to rebuild her nation after the World War, was to drive out the Communists. What would happen in Germany, Italy or Russia today or even France or Spain if any of the citizens were found promoting plans or schemes that would over-throw their form of government? They would either be shot at sun-rise or placed in a concentration camp for an indefinite period. Either the Fifth Columns will have to go or America is doomed.

We should not allow ourselves to become hysterical. But face the realities of a serious situation with a determination to profit by other's mistakes. We say again as we have oftimes before, the creating of a patriotic and united spirit of the people and the men who build and fly our planes and direct our mechanized army is just as important as the billions we will pile up for defense. American citizens must become one in spirit and one in action.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
August 11, 1940

NO FIFTH COLUMN HERE, BEALE STREET TO SHOW

MEMPHIS, Aug. 10 (AP).—Memphis Negroes are out to demonstrate—and to the tune of another blues song from the pen of William C. Handy—that "There's No Fifth Column on Beale Street."

Matthew Thornton, postal employe and "mayor" of the famous thoroughfare which symbolizes Negro life to the deep south, has called an "Americanism rally" for tomorrow.

"We're just going to show there're no subversive elements among the Negroes here," said Thornton.

From New York, Handy telegraphed support of the rally and promised a new song—"There's No Fifth Column on Beale Street"—in honor of the Negroes' expression of Americanism.